

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 NEA-10 /023 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RCGRAHAM  
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:FERONDON  
-----271413Z 080621 /47  
R 271325Z MAY 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122886

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJECT: JEWISH ARRESTS

REF: MVD 1257, 6158, STATE 90408, 96970

1. AFTER MEETING WITH D/HA COORDINATOR DERIAN, RABBI ROSENTHAL INFORMED THE DESK THAT THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN VISITING THE JEWISH PRISONERS IN MONTEVIDEO. THE RABBI IS AWARE THAT SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE SENSITIVE FROM EVERY POINT OF VIEW. THEREFORE, HE HAS ASKED FOR THE EMBASSY'S ADVICE AS TO HOW SUCH A MEETING MIGHT BE ARRANGED.

2. MVD 1257 REPORTED THAT THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION OF THE MONTEVIDEO POLICE DEPARTMENT, VICTOR CASTILGIONI, TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN SEEKING OUT THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO BRIEF HIM ON THE ARRESTS AND ASSURE HIM THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ANTI-SEMITISM, AND TO INVITE THE AMBASSADOR TO VISIT THE PRISONERS. THE URUGUAYAN EMBASSY HAS ALSO SIMILARLY ASSURED THE DEPARTMENT THAT THERE IS NO ANTI-SEMITISM IN THAT COUNTRY, AND IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS  
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HAS URGED HIGH LEVEL GOVT AND NON-GOVERNMENT VISITS TO GAIN AN ACCURATE PERSPECTIVE OF THE URUGUAYAN REALITY.

3. THE EMBASSY SHOULD CONSIDER CONTACTING CASTILGIONI TO DETERMINE IF A SIMILAR INVITATION COULD BE EXTENDED TO RABBI ROSENTHAL. THE RABBI DOES NOT WANT TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE OR IDENTIFY EITHER WITH THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR

OR THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY IN HIS PROPOSED VISIT, IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS THAT MIGHT AFFECT THEIR PRESENT STATE OF RELATIONS WITH URUGUAYAN AUTHORITIES (OR WITH THE LEAGUE).

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR OPINION OF WHETHER A VISIT BY THE RABBI, AND PERHAPS ONE OR TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE WOULD BE FEASIBLE AT THIS TIME.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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